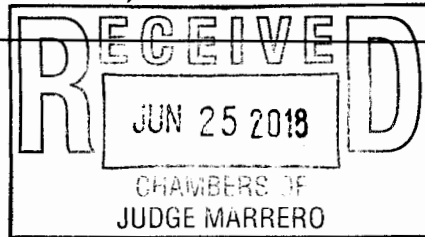


Appeals Bureau  
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David E. Patton  
Executive Director  
and Attorney-in-Chief



*Appeals Bureau*  
Barry D. Leiwant  
*Attorney-in-Charge*

June 21, 2018

BY ECF

Honorable Jed S. Rafoff  
United States District Judge  
Southern District of New York  
United States District Courthouse  
500 Pearl Street, Room 1340  
New York, NY 10007

USDC SDNY  
DOCUMENT  
ELECTRONICALLY FILED  
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DATE FILED: 6/26/18

Re: Christopher Reese v. United States  
Docket No. 12 Cr. 629 (VM)

Dear Judge Marrero,

This letter is submitted in response to the Court's order, dated June 20, for counsel to submit the nature of the conflict of interest necessitating our motion to be relieved as counsel to Mr. Reese. Our office represented another client, Omar Valle, in a case pending before Judge Rakoff, Docket No. 18 Cr. 63 (JSR). In that case, Judge Rakoff ordered Mr. Reese to provide testimony in a matter involving Mr. Valle's subsequently retained counsel. Our office was reappointed to represent Mr. Valle when Judge Rakoff relieved the retained counsel. Our office recognized the potential conflict between Mr. Valle and Mr. Reese and moved to be relieved from representing both clients in that matter. Judge Rakoff granted that motion. However, we still owe a duty of loyalty to Mr. Valle, which would be compromised by our continuing representation of Mr. Reese.

I have informed Mr. Reese of the conflict and our motion to be relieved and he consents to the motion. I have attached a copy of a letter he wrote to the court, and sent to me my email.

Respectfully submitted,

COLLEEN P. CASSIDY  
Assistant Federal Defender

Request GRANTED. The Federal  
Defenders of New York is relieved  
as counsel to defendant Christopher  
Reese in this matter.

SO ORDERED:  
6-25-18

DATE VICTOR MARRERO, U.S.D.J.

**colleen cassidy**

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**From:** REESE CHRISTOPHER (17878083)  
**Sent Date:** Wednesday, June 20, 2018 6:08 PM  
**To:** colleen\_cassidy@fd.org  
**Subject:** (212) 805-6382

JUNE 20, 2018

THE HONORABLE VICTOR MARRERO  
SENIOR U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK  
40 CENTRE STREET  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10007

Re: United States v. Reese, 12 Cr. 629 (VM)

Dear Judge Marrero:

On or about May 5, 2017, the Court assigned the Federal Public Defenders Office ("Office") to represent me as habeas counsel on the pending motion to vacate the sentence imposed in this case. The matter is being handled by the Appeals Bureau, and Colleen Cassidy was assigned as counsel. It is my understanding that the Office now believes that there is a conflict of interest that prevents them from continuing to represent me in this matter. I have consulted with Ms. Cassidy on the matter, and I have been informed by her that she has filed a formal application to be relieved.

I now write to inform the Court that I consent to the Office being relieved, and to the appointment of CJA counsel at the Court's earliest possible convenience.

The Court's indulgence in this matter will be greatly and most sincerely appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Christopher E. Reese